

STATINTL

CARL T. ROWAN

## What to Expect of the Dodd Case Hearings

Don't expect anything dramatic when the Senate Ethics Committee gets around to those hearings on misconduct allegations against Sen. Dodd, D-Conn.

One committee member is telling friends how relieved he is that Dodd filed a \$5 million libel suit against Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson, the columnists who made the allegations. This, he says, gives the senators a good excuse not to deal hastily with certain issues: They will plead unwillingness to tamper with certain matters that are before the courts.

The committee will go ahead with its investigation of Dodd's relationship to Julius Klein, a lobbyist representing West German interests. But there is a strong desire on the part of some senators "not to sacrifice Dodd just to cleanse the conscience of the Senate."

One outspoken member of this group says he feels Dodd has simply been extra-energetic at doing what most members of the Senate have done to some degree.

"I can describe you a composite senator who is much worse than Dodd, just as I could have pictured a composite senator who was much worse than Joe McCarthy," he said.

This senator's view is that the Ethics Committee's real job is to let the Dodd case prod it into developing some standards by which a senator can be judged in the future.

Whether this is an overly charitable attitude toward Dodd remains to be seen. But there can be no doubt that the Dodd case highlights the need to take a hard look, not only at congressional ethics, but

also at the army of fat-walletted lobbyists who are constantly out to buy elected officials, newsmen and anybody else with any influence.

All the Ethics Committee needs to do is read the record of the 1963 hearings in the Foreign Relations Committee on lobbying by foreign agents.

These hearings produced a fantastic and sometimes disgusting array of evidence of free trips abroad and even cash payments to individuals expected to promote such diverse things as Portuguese colonialism and Dominican sugar.

For example, I reported in an earlier column on a group called the American-African Affairs Association and its use of such Negro "front men" as George Schuyler of the Pittsburgh Courier in its effort to sell Rhodesian racism to the American public.

The 1963 hearings turned up some interesting documents relating to the use of Schuyler and his daughter, Philippa, by

Selvage and Lee, lobbyists representing the Portuguese.

The hearings revealed payment of \$150 to Schuyler by Selvage and Lee at about the time Schuyler did a supplement for the Courier praising the Portuguese role in Angola and Mozambique. It disclosed a \$199.12 payment to the Courier and the fact that Selvage and Lee distributed thousands of copies of the supplement.

The hearings also revealed that the lobbyists financed at least part of a trip through the Portuguese colonies by Schuyler's daughter, that Selvage and Lee paid her at least \$200 and that a Selvage and Lee memorandum said the following of Miss Schuyler: "... Philippa Schuyler has finally started to pay off for us in a very substantial way. Since her return to the States, she has been on a nationwide concert tour and practically everywhere she has gone she has had radio

and television interviews in which she discussed Angola and Mozambique. . . ."

The testimony made it clear that Portuguese money was targeted particularly at what Selvage and Lee hoped would be influential Negroes.

That is just one sample of the way lobbyists buy influence in Washington and elsewhere.

There are some in this town who hold that the temptation of the lobbyists' fat bankroll is more than a poor congressman, struggling along on \$30,000 a year, can be expected to withstand. So what to do?

It is unreasonable to ask that all lobbyists be banished. And it is foolish to expect them not to try to wield influence through one kind of favor or another.

It is not unreasonable to expect that the Congress, the executive branch—and the press—can develop some reasonable guidelines to help determine when integrity becomes compromised.